

Amendments to the Claims

1. (original) A loop means for pointing devices for guiding a cursor on a computer screen or the like in the form of a cylinder that can be moved in its axial direction and rotate around two supports that stretch out the cross-section of the loop to make an oval shape, including a flexible support material having a number of mutually spaced strips or equivalent means essentially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the loop means for stiffening the loop means in its axial direction, characterised by friction material with significantly varying thickness at different places measured from the external surface of the support material and outwards.
2. (original) The loop means according to claim 1, characterised by longitudinal zones between the strips with less than average concentration of friction material.
3. (original) The loop means according to claim 2, characterised by the friction material being arranged essentially in the form of friction strips above the strips.
4. (original) The loop means according to claim 2, characterised by the friction material being arranged essentially in the form of friction islands above the strips.
5. (currently amended) The loop means according to claim 1 ~~any of the previous claims~~, characterised by comprising a substantially rectangular support material, joined together to form a cylinder, whereby at least a portion of the joint is situated over one of the strips.
6. (currently amended) The loop means according to claim 1 ~~any of the previous claims~~, characterised by the support material consisting of fabric.

7. (original) The loop means according to claim 6, characterised by the support material's individual threads being arranged at an angle of at least 20 and at most 70 degrees to the strips.

8. (currently amended) The loop means according to claims 6 or 7, characterised by the cloth having a distance D between the individual threads, where D is larger than 0.05 millimetre on the average.

9. (original) The loop means according to claim 8, characterised by the cloth being of the Georgette type of fabric.

10. (currently amended) The loop means according to claim 1 ~~any of the previous claims~~, characterised by the friction material containing small reflecting particles that are separated sufficiently to give rise to individual light points on the detector chip of an optical detector such as a HDNS 2000 or the like.